

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
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Meeting Summary

May 18, 2012

Members Present – Kameka Brown, Chair, Marti Lindeman, Michael Lusk, Helen Sikov

Members Excused – Cynthia Andrews, Gwendolyn Coates, Carolyn Johnson Davis,

Staff – Karen Winston

I. Retreat Check-ins

Kameka asked members how to keep the momentum from the retreat going. Members provided the following feedback:

- The council is working better as a team and communication seems better.
- If we stay focused on tasks, everything should continue to develop well.
- With the future plans, the MCAAE will begin to be more visible.
- The MCAAE should reach out to Dannette Smith, HSD Director, Jesse Eller, ADS Director and Rowena Rye, Manager of the Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens.

II. Bank of America Account

Members discussed the BoA account and how it is losing money due to the monthly fees. Kameka would like to move the account to a credit union and re-examine the possibility of developing a 501c3 organization in order to receive donations. Helen agreed to be the lead for submitting the application to the state for nonprofit status.

III. Recruitment

Kameka reported that she followed up with Kimberly Walker, Manager of the Kinship Center and Ed Prince, WA State Commission on African American Affairs, about being appointed to the MCAAE. Members also discussed strategies for recruiting individuals with specific strengths.

Michael reported on his meeting with James Bush, City of Seattle Boards and Commissions Administrator.

- Boards/commissions bylaws should be similar with other boards and commissions.
- Members need to live in Seattle or a work history of targeting older adults.
- Most boards/commissions have 15 members, however, it's ok to have up to 12 members.
- Most boards/commissions members serve 2-3 year terms.

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- James will need to review the proposed bylaws revisions and also have the Mayor review and approve.
- James should be included in all interviews with potential appointees, as his schedule permits.
- All appointments and re-appointments are approved by the Mayor.

Karen was reminded to follow-up with United Way and other groups regarding recruitment.

IV. MCAAE Meeting Dates

Marti proposed that the council investigate if members are willing to conduct meetings on the third or fourth Mondays or Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., since many members have difficulty attending meetings during the work hours. Karen was asked to poll members regarding new dates and times.

V. Legislative Forum

Marti reported that she is working on the invite letter to legislators who will be invited to the forum scheduled for August 2. Karen will be meeting with seniors at Central and Southeast Senior Centers to gather input to inform the questions that legislators will be asked. Letters to legislators will go out in June. Marti will talk to Cynthia about how many can be accommodated at the Central.

VI. Bylaws

Cynthia submitted recommendations for the following revisions to the bylaws as follows:

- No members can serve more than two consecutive terms or 4 years.
- Chair serves two consecutive years.
- Revise treasurer and secretary roles.
- Chair meet with mayor and reports to MCAAE members.
- Chair appoints interview committee.
- Add information regarding the reappointment process.
- Add information regarding the number of members (for example: up to 12 members).

Karen was asked to draft specific language for the recommended revisions.

VII. June Meeting

Members were reminded that Amy Freeman, Columbia Legal Services will be speaking to members at the June meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.